



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on May 9, 2007, at the Burton M. Cross State Office Building, ATM Room 103, Augusta, the following members present: Chair James Carignan; Vice Chair Philip Dionne, Jean Gulliver, Ellie Multer, and Ann Weisleder. Excused: Joyce McPhetres, Janet Tockman, and Jack Norris

Also present were: Deputy Commissioner Angela Faherty; Harry Osgood, Higher Education Specialist, Support Systems Team; Scott Brown, AIA, School Facilities; and Rhonda Casey, Clerk.

CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Ellie Multer, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the March 14 and April 11 2007, minutes as written.

CONSENT AGENDA:

RECEIVE FOR CONSIDERATION THE PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT FOR SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

RECEIVE FOR CONSIDERATION THE PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT FOR BOWDOIN COLLEGE

RECEIVE FOR CONSIDERATION THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT CONCERNING THE HUSSON COLLEGE APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE PHARM. DOCTOR (P.D.) DEGREE

RECEIVE FOR CONSIDERATION THE UNITY COLLEGE PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT

RECEIVE FOR CONSIDERATION THE REVIEW TEAM RECOMMENDATION
REGARDING THE HUSSON COLLEGE APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL
DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE JURIS DOCTOR (J.D.)
DEGREE

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Ann Weisleder, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the consent agenda.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY FOR THE MAINE PHOTOGRAPHIC
WORKSHOPS LOCATED IN ROCKPORT, MAINE TO CONFER ACADEMIC
DEGREES

Background: P&SL 1995, Chapter 68, S.P. 682 – L.D. 1747, *An Act to Authorize the Maine Photographic Workshops to Grant Degrees* authorized Rockport College, formerly known as Maine Photographic Workshops, located in the Town of Rockport, County of Knox to confer the Associate in Arts and the Master of Fine Arts degrees. Legislative authorization was granted during the 117th Maine Legislature, second regular session, 1996 with such authorization becoming effective July 4, 1996.

20-A M.R.S.A., Chapter 409, §10712, provides that the State Board of Education terminate the authority of an educational institution to confer degrees when any of the following has occurred: discontinuance of instruction; sale of stock; sale or lease of assets; and/or merger, consolidation, or reorganization. The Department was advised, on March 6, 2007, that, on March 3, 2007, the Maine Media Workshops (MMW), a not-for-profit corporation, acquired, from David Lyman, the working assets of the Maine Photographic Workshops, the International Film and Television Workshops, and Rockport College. This acquisition involves the transfer of all of the College's voting stock. The new owner has secured articles of Incorporation through the Office of the Secretary of State and will retain the Rockport College name, programming, and facilities.

Recommendation: That the State Board of Education, given the transfer of the College's voting stock, terminate the authority of Rockport College to confer degrees under the ownership of the Maine Photographic Workshops.

MOVED by Phil Dionne, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted by those present to terminate the authority of Rockport College to confer degrees under the ownership of the Maine Photographic Workshops.

TEMPORARY APPROVAL TO USE THE NAME OF ROCKPORT COLLEGE,
LOCATED IN ROCKPORT, MAINE, AND TO CONFER DEGREES THROUGH THE
ACADEMIC YEAR 2007 - 2008

Background: P&SL 1995, Chapter 68, S.P. 682 – L.D. 1747, An Act to Authorize the Maine Photographic Workshops to Grant Degrees authorized Rockport College, formerly known as Maine Photographic Workshops, located in the Town of Rockport, County of Knox to confer the Associate in Arts and the Master of Fine Arts degrees. Legislative authorization was granted during the 117th Maine Legislature, second regular session, 1996 with such authorization becoming effective July 4, 1996.

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Title 20-A M.R.S.A., Chapter 409, §10703 provides that the state board may grant an applicant use of the term “college” in its name until the earlier of: the expiration of the academic year; or the applicant is authorized by the Legislature to grant degrees in accordance with §10704. §10703 also provide that the state board may extend or renew temporary approval for not more than two years.

Through the vehicle of a letter to Commissioner Gendron, dated March 6, 2007, the owners of the Maine Media Workshops, d.b.a. as the Maine Photographic Workshops have requested that the board grant temporary approval, permitting the use of the name Rockport College. Because the Maine Media Workshops will need to be granted authority to confer degrees under an Act of the Legislature, the period of temporary approval being sought is for the next three months of the academic year 2006-2007 and for the academic year 2007-2008. This will permit the acquisition of Legislative authorization, during the second session of the 123rd Legislature, to confer the Associate of Arts and the Master of Fine Arts degrees as Rockport College, under the ownership of the Maine Media Workshops.

Recommendation: That the State Board of Education grant temporary approval to the Maine Media Workshops to use the name of Rockport College and to confer degrees, with temporary approval, through the academic year 2007-2008.

MOVED by Ellie Multer, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted by those present to grant temporary approval to the Maine Medial Workshops to use the name of Rockport College and to confer degrees with temporary approval through June 30, 2008.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; DESIGN AND
FUNDING APPROVAL CONSIDERATION; SAD #54, NORRIDGEWOCK, MAINE,
NEW PREK-6 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Statement of Fact: The SAD #54 elementary school, which will be constructed in Norridgewock and will house pre K through grade 6 students from Norridgewock, Mercer, and Smithfield, received Concept Approval on September 12, 2006. The project was approved at referendum on October 17, 2006.

This Design and Funding Approval is being requested pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

The new school in Norridgewock will be built on the present site of the old Norridgewock School that will be removed after the new school opens. Both the Mercer and Smithfield schools will be offered to the respective communities. This project will consolidate into one school all students on the western side of the district. This will result in only one facility to maintain and operate.

School Administrative District #54 is requesting Design and Funding Approval for a new elementary school qualifying under State statute and State Board of Education Rule Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, and

- The SAD #54 proposed school construction project is eligible for school construction under M.R.S.A. Title 20-A, Chapter 609;
- The proposed project and authorized method of financing are in the best interest of the State of Maine and SAD #54;
- The SAD #54 estimated capital outlay expenditures are reasonable; and
- The SAD #54 proposed project is in compliance with M.R.S.A. Title 20-A, Chapter 301, as it relates to special education facilities.

Project Information:

Project: SAD #54 Elementary School
Superintendent: Brent Colbry
Principals: Cecile Tobey
Architect: Steve Blatt, Stephen Blatt Architects

Project Budget Information:

Concept Approval Date and Total Project Cost: September 12, 2006, \$15,805,000
Local Only Cost (no State participation): \$336,000
Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$15,349,000
Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$120,000

Construction Committee Recommendation: The Construction Committee met on May 2, 2007, and voted unanimously to send this exhibit to the State Board of Education for consideration with an approval recommendation.

Commissioner Recommendation: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board grant Design and Funding Approval to SAD #54 for a new school to be located in Norridgewock, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the budget as presented.

MOVED by Ellie Multer, seconded by Ann Weisleder, and unanimously voted to grant Design and Funding Approval to SAD #54 for a new school to be located in Norridgewock, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the budget as presented.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; CONCEPT APPROVAL CONSIDERATION; ELLSWORTH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, PREK-8 RENOVATION/ADDITION SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

Statement of Fact: The Ellsworth application for an elementary project was rated number 4 on the Approved Projects List from the 2004-2005 rating cycle. This proposal will provide a major consolidation for the school system by closing two elementary schools and combining them with the existing middle school that was the old Ellsworth High School.

The proposal will renovate the existing middle school, demolish an old unused classroom wing, and add a primary wing and an intermediate wing to the existing middle school. The site is centrally located in the community and the proposed project will greatly enhance traffic flow on the site. The proposal will necessitate moving the existing high school soccer field from the present middle school site to the present high school site.

This Concept Approval is being requested pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

Project Information:

Project: Prek-8 Renovation/Addition

Superintendent: Frank Hackett

Principals: Amy Peterson-Roper (K-5); James Newett (6-8)

Architect: Oak Point Associates

Schools to be Closed: Dr. Charles C. Knowlton School (K-2) and General Bryant E. Moore School (3-5)

School Renovation/Addition: Ellsworth Middle School (6-8)

Superintendent Hackett has provided the following project description statement:

The Ellsworth School Department (ESD) views the construction of a new PK-5 building,

along with the renovation of our existing 6-8 school, as providing us with a wonderful opportunity to make improvements that will benefit our entire school community. The consolidation of our entire PK-8 program into one building will allow us to maximize our resources for the betterment of our entire educational program. This project represents a significant upgrade over our current conditions, greatly enhancing our efforts in helping all students achieve the Maine Learning Results (MLR).

Our current facilities house K-8 in three separate schools: K2 (Dr. C.C. Knowlton School), 35 (Bryant E. Moore School), and 68 (Ellsworth Middle School). While each school strives to create equitable opportunities that will result in appreciable academic growth and achievement of the MLR, providing the necessary support to reach this goal is often strained by our existing facility limitations, including the location of staff and their teaching spaces. Many teachers, support staff and resources must be shared between three locations. As a result, the school day schedule is often driven by the availability of staff and appropriate learning areas.

An additional problem plaguing all three schools is the lack of appropriately designed space for special education students and for increases in student enrollment. Each year we lose valuable time determining who will move and be displaced in order to make room for larger classes, or for students who are not able to access specific rooms due to their disability and our out-dated buildings, which are not designed appropriately. Consequently, we are constantly trying to find classrooms to meet increases in enrollment and/or additional programs. A few years ago, enrollment increases in both the general and special education population led to the elimination of an existing PK program in order to capture classroom space for other purposes.

Although our conversations about new programs for academic excellence begin with an examination of achievement data, an unfortunate question immediately follows: where can we possibly put it? With one PK-8 building, we will be able to provide opportunities for all students by structuring the school day according to the educational needs of diverse learners across all content areas and grades, as opposed to our current model of having to make program decisions based upon space limitations. Our new facility will go a long way in helping us maximize resources and better manage the effective delivery of curricula and instruction to all students.

We also believe that additional efficiencies will be gained in educational administration, facilities and transportation. We are anticipating that the PK-8 school will operate with two principals, as opposed to our existing three: as part of this transition, one of our principals will be retiring, leaving Amy Peterson-Roper in charge of the PK-5 program and Jim Newett as the principal of the 6-8 middle school. The consolidation of custodial and maintenance staff will also allow for streamlining, potentially leading to a reduction in the amount of personnel needed to maintain the facility.

Project Budget Information:

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$36,443,847.00

Local Only Cost (no State participation): \$1,367,724.00
Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$34,956,123
Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$120,000

Construction Committee Recommendation: The Construction Committee met on May 2, 2007, and voted unanimously to send this exhibit to the State Board of Education for consideration with an approval recommendation.

Commissioner Recommendation: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board grant Concept Approval to Ellsworth School Department for a preK-8 addition/renovation in Ellsworth and approve the budget as presented.

MOVED by Ellie Multer, seconded by Ann Weisleder, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Concept Approval to Ellsworth School Department for a pre k-8 addition/renovation in Ellsworth and approve the budget as presented.

Ellie Multer left the meeting at 1:40 p.m. to attend a Legislative Hearing, which resulted in lack of a quorum. The following reports were given, but did not require any action on behalf of the Board.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Ann Weisleder:

- That while she was scanning the National Association of School Boards of Education (NASBE) she came across a PowerPoint presentation involving diversity. Also it may be a good idea to add to the Board's workshop agenda each month regular updates about NASBE, its initiatives, and information available to assist states.

Phil Dionne:

- Two weeks ago, Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) had their annual gathering at the Civic Center, which brought their students together for a meeting.
- That the channel CW Portland will be airing the Kick Start Finals on Thursday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. Twenty participants from all over Maine competed for a chance to go to the finals and win a \$10,000 scholarship. The scholarship was sponsored by Bangor Savings Bank.
- That on Saturday evening, April 28, the Annual Career and Technical Education (CTE) Outstanding Students of the Year Award Ceremony was held, and 25 out of the 27 CTE schools participated.
- That LD 1884, An Act to Create the Competitiveness Training Fund and Improve Maine Employee Security Programs, essentially brings together several elements involving training and support, distribution of federal funds to the Department of Labor, the elimination of the pension offset against unemployment benefits for

- persons receiving social security, and provisions for the continuation of employment compensation for certain individuals who are able and available for part-time work.
- That it is that time of the year for the Board to choose where it would like to hold its meeting from July through December. Geographically, there are three areas that the Board has not visited: 1) Rangeley, Kingfield, and Bingham; 2) Dover-Foxcroft, Milo, and Lincoln; 3) Rockland, Waldoboro, and Boothbay.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Chair Carignan reported on the following:

- That he is still working to implement the strategies outlined in the Board's grant that was submitted to the National Association of State Board's of Education. (NASBE). It appears that the best way to start this work is to work with individuals from Maine Youth Action Network (MYAN). He has met with staff from MYAN to start the process of bringing two students to serve on the State Board.
- That he drafted a bulletin which quickly outlined the Board's activities over the last several months. The bulletin was distributed through email to superintendents and all Maine legislators. Both he and Rhonda received positive comments indicating that the bulletin was appreciated and a wonderful idea.
- That he met with Colleen Quint and Henry Bougeois in an effort to begin building an infrastructure to support student membership on the State Board of Education.
- That he has spent a fair amount in of time in Augusta listening to the Education Committee.

Ellie returned at 2:10 PM, thus creating a quorum and allowed the board to receive the slates of names for nomination of chair and vice chair.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Nomination Committee Rhonda Casey present the slate of names for chair and vice chair. James W. Carignan was nominated to serve as chair and Philip A. Dionne was nominated to serve as vice chair for a term of one year beginning July 1, 2007, ending June 30, 2007.

Ellie Multer:

- That she attended a hearing held today regarding LD 1666, Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission to Amend Its Rules to Increase the Amount of Energy Conservation Funds for School Administrative Units. The bill was voted ought to pass with an amendment, which directed the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to develop a plan to increase energy efficiency and conservation in school

facilities in the State, to promote opportunities for school administrative units to participate in the PUC's Efficiency Maine programs and to encourage data collection on school energy consumption and costs.

ADJOURNMENT:

State Board of Education unanimously agreed to adjourn the May 9, 2007, meeting at 2:38 PM.